

8th April 1960] [Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam]

The workers struck work without giving proper notice as prescribed in the Madras Industrial Disputes Rules, 1958. As soon as he came to know of the strike, the Commissioner of Labour advised the Unions to call off the illegal strike and direct the workers to resume normal work pending discussions before him on their demands. The Commissioner of Labour called the parties for a discussion on the demands on 18th March 1960. The representative of the Management and the two Unions were present. The Managements' representative informed the Commissioner of Labour that unless the Unions called off the strike, which was illegal, and the workers resumed work, the Management would not participate in the discussions on the demands of the Unions. In view of this, the Commissioner of Labour could not discuss the demands with the parties and this has resulted in a stalemate.

The action of the workers in having gone on strike during the crushing season has caused considerable loss and inconvenience to the cane growers in the Pettaivaithalai Sugar Factory area. It has been represented to the Government by the cane growers of this area that nearly 1,100 acres of sugarcane which are to be harvested during this crushing season are getting over-mature and that there will be considerable deterioration in quality and loss in weight if the canes are not crushed immediately. As the cane crop is not being harvested, the land could not be released for cultivation of the second crop of paddy. It has been estimated that the consequent shortfall in paddy production will be 11,000 bags. The cane growers have complained that the paddy nurseries raised for growing the second crop of paddy are getting over-aged and will become useless shortly. It has also been represented that as the lands are still under the cane crop, the cane growers are unable to release the lands to the owners and have consequently to continue to pay the lease for these lands. It has also been complained that 4,000 agricultural labourers imported into the cane area from outside for harvesting the cane crop and 150 cartmen imported from outside for transporting the cane to the factory have been thrown out of employment.

The possibility of transporting the sugar-cane of the affected cane growers to some other factory is being explored.

III.—GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION.

NOMINATION OF THREE MEMBERS FROM THE COUNCIL TO ASSOCIATE WITH THE COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: Sir, I move—

“that this House recommends to the Legislative Council that they do nominate three members from the Council to associate with the Committee on Subordinate Legislation of this House for the year 1960–61 and communicate to this House the names of the members so nominated”.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is—

“that this House recommends to the Legislative Council that they do nominate three members from the Council to associate with the Committee on Subordinate Legislation of this House for the year 1960–61 and communicate to this House the names of the members so nominated”.

The motion was put and carried.